

Senate Resolution 193

By: Senators Kirk of the 13th, Dugan of the 30th, Walker III of the 20th, Unterman of the 45th, Beach of the 21st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental
2 Disabilities to the Department of Community Health; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, developmental disability services are currently provided through the
4 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; and

5 WHEREAS, the Department of Community Health is the sole agency which receives federal
6 Medicaid funds for Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the Department of Community Health contracts with the Department of
8 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to provide developmental disabilities
9 services under Medicaid; and

10 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to streamline these services and to minimize duplicative
11 oversight and administrative costs; and

12 WHEREAS, to such ends, it would be prudent to formulate a transition plan to transfer the
13 Division of Developmental Disabilities from the Department of Behavioral Health and
14 Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health effective July 1, 2020,
15 including conducting an analysis by the Department of Audits and Accounts to identify and
16 implement best practices in areas including, but not limited to, automatic recertification of
17 waiver recipients, case management reform models, targeted case management reviews for
18 individuals who have been deinstitutionalized or recommended for services, use of national
19 accreditation for service providers, and review of contracted services for quality assurance,
20 delivery of developmental disability services, and other services.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

(1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee on Transferring Oversight of Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Community Health.

(2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a legislative member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

(3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

(4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

(5) **Allowances and funding.**

The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate.

(6) **Report.**

(A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee. A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

(D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

(7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2019.